



Serving the communities of Chino, Montclair, Ontario and Pomona

November 2004

Dear Friend,

November is Adoption Awareness month, National Alzheimer's Awareness month and American Indian Heritage month. We will also celebrate Thanksgiving, and of course, Veterans Day.

There are many Veterans Day celebrations taking place throughout the district, including the annual ceremony at Riverside National Cemetery. California is home to almost 3 million veterans, more than any other state. Our veterans have served with valor in WWI and WWII, the Korean War, Viet Nam and Desert Storm.

With family and friends risking their lives in Iraq, Afghanistan and other far-off places for the cause of freedom, it is especially important to honor and salute those who have kept America free.

However, supporting our veterans means more than just issuing statements or attending events one day a year, or acknowledging their sacrifice only when we are in a time of war. George Canning once wrote, "When our perils are past, shall our gratitude sleep?" Our gratitude should be such that we honor our veterans every day by working diligently to help them live healthy, successful lives after their official service to our country has ended.

It is with that mission in mind that my colleagues and I worked to enact a number of bills to benefit California's veterans. This year we were successful in getting a number of measures through that benefit veterans.

For one, SB 1688, designates the second week in November as Veterans Appreciation Week. Another designates May as Hire a Veteran month. There is legislation that will make it more affordable for veterans to get a college education, to fund veterans' homes and help eliminate discrimination against homeless veterans.

Some of these provisions have been signed into law by the Governor, others are still undergoing the legislative process. At any rate, I pledge my continuing support for measures that benefit veterans.

Have a happy and safe Veterans Day and Thanksgiving.

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New Freeway Service Patrol to provide emergency roadside aid

The Freeway Service Patrol program is coming to San Bernardino County in July, 2005, thanks to legislative approval of AB 2498.

The patrol provides emergency roadside assistance to travelers on freeways in heavily traveled urban areas at no charge to motorists.

The service helps ease congestion, enhance safety reduce pollution by removing stalled vehicles quickly from freeway lanes.

The patrols will be in operation Monday through Friday during peak travel times on portions of Interstates 10, 15, 215 and 60.

The patrols are already in operation in 19 of California's counties.

November 2nd is Election Day

If you have any questions about where you vote, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties both have that information on-line or by telephone:

LA County residents: Go to www.lavote.net and click on "Where do I vote?" or call (800) 815-2666.

San Bernardino County residents: Call (800) 881-VOTE or (909) 387-8300.

2003-2004



VETERANS LEGISLATION (As of 10/1/04)

Signed into law by the Governor:

AB 323 — Nonprofit Veteran Service Agencies. Would authorize any state agency, or city, county, political subdivision or district to purchase goods and services from nonprofit veterans' service agencies without advertising or calling for bids. Nonprofit service agencies are defined.

AB 1073 — Military death gratuity. Would, for tax years beginning after 11 September, 2001, exclude all of the death gratuity income received by the survivor of a deceased member, former member, or person entering the Armed Force of the United States, from income tax for the year the gratuity is received.

AB 1179 — Veterans: Public Records. Provides that a certified copy of a veteran's records will be made available only to the individual with proper identification or to a family member or legal

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Veterans Day Fact Sheet

26.4 million...

The number of veterans in the U.S. This is a ratio of about 1-8 U.S. civilians age 18 and over, or 13 percent.

6...

The percentage of civilian veterans who are women.

37...

The percentage of veterans who are 65 years or older.

2.6 million

The number of African American veterans. About 22.6 million are Caucasian, 1.1 million are Hispanic, 284,000 are Asian; and 196,000 are American Indian or Alaska Native.

Also among the nation's veterans:

- *Nearly 6 million (1 in 5) served in WWII.*
- *About 4 million (1 in 6) served in the Korean War.*
- *More than 8 million (almost 1 in 3) served during the Viet Nam era.*
- *About 3 million (or 1 in 9) served since August 1990, which includes Persian Gulf Veterans.*

California has the highest number of veterans, with 2.6 million veterans. Florida is second highest, with 1.9 million.

—Census 2000, U.S. Census Bureau



Veterans Legislation

Cont. from p. 2

representative of the person who is the subject of the record upon presentation of proper identification and certification of their relationship to the veteran.

AB 1077--Wesson-- Veterans Homes; authorizes the issuance of an additional \$100 million in lease-revenue bonds for five veterans homes.

A1594--Committee on Veterans Affairs Discrimination Against Veterans. Amends Section 50801.5 of the Health and Safety Code and specifies that the provision of housing for homeless veterans who possess significant barriers to social reintegration and employment is authorized by the state, and will not be considered discrimination, notwithstanding any provision of state law or of local ordinances.

AB 1736--Committee on Veterans Affairs-- New state veterans' homes. Appropriates funds by authorizing use of money from the Veterans Home Bond Act of 2000 to design, construct, expand and equip veterans' homes in Lancaster, West Los Angeles, Saticoy, Fresno County and Shasta County.

AB 2266--Committee on Veterans Affairs-- Cal-Vet Farm and Home Loan Program. Would extend the definition of "home" to include cooperative housing, as defined, to be eligible for a Cal-Vet loan.

AB 279--Cohn-- Special License Plates: Purple Heart. Allows the spouse of a veteran possessing a Purple Heart license plate to retain it upon the death of the veteran; upon death of the spouse, the plates would return to DMV.

AB 3000--Mountjoy-- Veterans Homes. Extends priority admission status to former prisoners of war, in addition to the current priority admission status for Medal of Honor recipients. Also exempts residents of domiciliary units at the state veterans homes from paying federal aid and attendance stipends to the home.

ACR 171--Maze-- Vietnam War Veterans. Asks the Governor to proclaim March 8, 2005, as a day of honor for Vietnam veterans and request the State of California to fly its flags at half-mast on that day in honor of these veterans.

AJR 71--Wolk-- Veterans Health Care Requests the Congress and the President of the United States to enact legislation to provide for a guaranteed level of funding for veterans' health care. *(Sent to California members of Congress and the President of the United States.)*

Veterans Day Events

Ontario

Nov. 1: Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 7:30 p.m. A musical tribute by the Ontario-Chaffey Showband. This year's theme honors Viet Nam Vets with "The Wall Remembers." Gardiner Spring Auditorium, Chaffey High School, 4th St. Admission and parking is free. Vietnam veterans and their families wishing to attend can call (909) 395-2020 to receive special seating arrangements.

Chino

Nov. 11: 5:00 p.m. Reception for veterans and their families at VFW Post 299, 13759 Central Ave, Chino.

Riverside National Cemetery

Nov. 11: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Ceremony with keynote address by Master Gunnery Sgt. Leonard Maffioli, U.S. Marine Corp (Ret.), 4th Marine Division, who was a POW for six months in Korea. Navy Jr. ROTC from the Corona High School Memorial Honor Detail will present and retire colors, perform rifle salute and TAPS. 22495 Van Buren Boulevard, Riverside.

***Did you change
your smoke alarm
batteries when you
set your clock
back?***

November Alzheimer's Disease Month

This month marks the 21st anniversary of President Ronald Reagan's designation of November as "National Alzheimer's Disease Month.

Alzheimer's is a progressive, irreversible neurological disorder that affects an estimated five million American adults. It is a degenerative disease of the brain that causes progressive, permanent deterioration. It not only affects memory but also behavior, judgment, mental processes like decision making, the ability to concentrate, visual perception, temperament, emotions and social interaction.

Early signs include memory loss, general forgetfulness, and forgetting names. Later, the patient may experience confusion, personality changes, impaired judgment, a decreased ability to concentrate, difficulty finding words, finishing thoughts, or following directions. As the disease progresses, the person regresses and remembers less and less of the present and more and more of the past.

One of the keys to coping with Alzheimer's is knowing that you are, in fact, dealing with the disease and not a dementia caused by some other factor, such as a drug interaction or nutrition problem, which might be treatable. Physicians and other health care professionals are essential in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease.

Caring within the home for someone with Alzheimer's should include using Alzheimer's home care service treatment programs for an assessment of family needs, assistance with daily care requirements, relief services and options for future care.

For information on coping with Alzheimer's, contact the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Information Services Hotline at **(800) 510-2020**. AAA is a State-designated agency responsible for identifying unmet needs of older adults and functionally-impaired adults as well as planning, coordinating, and implementing programs that promote the health, dignity, and well-being of San Bernardino and L.A. counties' residents.

Thought for November

"In war, there are no unwounded soldiers."

...José Narosky

ACE UPDATE ACE UPDATE

Aug. 13th 2004 ACE Hearing at Montclair City Hall



Assemblywoman Negrete McLeod explains the benefits of the Alameda Corridor East project in an interview with KFWB reporter Pete Demetriou at Montclair City Hall. (Left photo)

Assemblywoman Negrete McLeod, chairing a hearing of the Assembly Select Committee for the Alameda Corridor East project, listens to testimony with committee members Merv Dymally, Robert Pacheco, Richard Mountjoy, John Longville and Judy Chu. (Right photo)

Pomona ACE Update

The City of Pomona and Alameda Corridor East Construction Authority officials petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration to designate several areas along rail tracks a Quiet Zone. The FRA requires trains to sound their horns at all roadway-rail crossings except those with additional safety improvements.

ACE recently outfitted a number of rail crossings in Pomona with enhanced safety gates and lights that meet federal and railroad safety standards.

If approved, the designation would eliminate routine train horn-blowing in three phases:

- For 1.8 miles between Hamilton and Reservoir streets by December, 2004;
- Upon completion of the grade separations at East End Avenue and Reservoir Street and the Temple Avenue train diversion in 2007, an extension of the no horn blowing zone to 5.4 miles between Pomona Boulevard and East End Avenue;
- On completion of the Brea Canyon Road grade separation, the zone would be extended another 7.9 miles between Brea Canyon Road and East End Avenue (estimated time of completion: 2007).

Pomona Mayor Edward Cortes said the Quiet Zone designation will enhance both the quality of life and safety for the surrounding neighborhoods.